

SS InTouch – May Addendum

A school counselor's brief from the Indiana Department of Education

As you wrap up the school year– accept our thanks for all of your hard work this year. Many won't recognize all that you did behind the scenes. We will continue to provide these news briefs throughout the summer...and will be here if you have questions or comments. Have a wonderful summer!

- **Indiana School Counselor Summer Work Group** – The deadline has been extended to tomorrow (Friday, May 23rd) for applying to be part of our Summer Work Group which provides a \$300 stipend and three days of peace with your colleagues on the IU campus for creating resources for other Indiana school counselors. We especially need to hear from Indiana elementary school counselors who wish to share their great programs or activities.

The short application is at <http://www.counselingsurveys.org/do.php?survey=s108014> and asks you to briefly describe your successful approach to addressing areas such as raising student academic achievement, improving engagement of low motivated students, or reducing behavior referrals or discipline problems (esp. using Functional Behavioral Assessments or Behavior Intervention Plans).

- **Five New Elementary School Counselors will be able to be hired** next year in Indiana because of additional funding generated from the sale of the Garfield/Education License Plates. Funds gathered from the sale of those plates has enabled the School Intervention and Career Counseling Development grant to provide the funding (half of the salary) for five elementary School Counselor positions for a two year period (2008-2010)! In addition, the funding is continuing to support two Elementary School Counselor positions in their 2nd year of this grant - meaning Indiana will be providing half the funding for seven Elementary School Counselor positions next year!!

Funds for this grant are received from the sale of the Garfield Education plates. Please continue to promote the sale of these plates so we can continue to fund new Elementary School Counselor positions each year!! (Applications for this grant are posted in January and are due in March).

- **Twenty Indiana School Counseling Programs to Receive National Award** – Twenty Indiana Gold Star schools will receive the national Recognized ASCA Model Programs (RAMP) Award this spring at the ASCA conference in Atlanta. Of the 180 nationally-recognized RAMP Award Schools – 69 of the schools are from Indiana! That's a third!

Congratulations to these national RAMP Award schools:

Boswell Elementary School, Boswell
Center Grove High School, Greenwood
Central Middle School, Columbus
Cloverdale High School, Cloverdale
Cloverdale Middle School, Cloverdale
Crawfordsville High School, Crawfordsville
Crown Point High School, Crown Point
East Jay Middle School, Portland
Greenfield Middle School, Greenfield
Hamilton Southeastern Junior High, Fishers
Hayden Elementary School, Hayden
Jennings County Middle School, North Vernon
John Glenn High School, Walkerton
LaPorte High School, LaPorte
Norwell High School, Ossian

Prairie Crossing Elementary School, Oxford
South Ripley Elementary School, Versailles
Walkerton Elementary School, Walkerton
West Jay Middle School, Dunkirk
Zionsville West Middle School, Whitestown

- **A few more spots are available for the Indiana Gold Star School Counseling training workshops for 2008-09.** The one-page application is available at www.doe.in.gov/schoolcounseling under "Hot Topics" on the left side. If you have questions about what's involved in the Gold Star process, contact Matt Fleck at mfleck@doe.in.gov
- **Hiring a new School Counselor?** Any school corporation hiring a new Indiana school counselor for next year should make sure that the new hire enrolls in the Indiana Mentoring and Assessment Program and is assigned a certified SC mentor by October 1. See: http://www.doe.state.in.us/sservices/pdf/sc/IMAP_guidelines.pdf for further details.
- Two spots are still open for a **School Counselor Tour** of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg, NC from June 4-7th, 2008. The deadline is TODAY (May 22nd). Reply to this e-mail for the application.

Only 30 educational leaders from across the country are invited since it is a rare opportunity to be able to personally observe this specialized, highly trained organization, home of Special Commercial air transportation and local accommodations will be funded by the US Army Recruiting Command. You must initially pay for your meals, but these expenses will be reimbursed to you approximately four to six weeks after your return.

- **SPN not ESPN** – Teachers, school counselors and other Indiana public school personnel should expect to receive a new 8 digit SPN (School Personnel Number) next year. In some ways similar to the STN, the new ID system will designate an identification number for each K-12 educator in the state so that specific grade level information can be gathered and shared. The system is expected to be implemented by the end of 2008.
- **Elementary School Counselor Update**
 - Be sure to put the **Elementary School Counselor Retreat** on your calendar for September 28-29th, 2008. The 2nd Annual ISCA Elementary Professional School Counselor Fall Retreat will be at the Fatima Retreat Center in Indianapolis and is open to experienced and new elementary school counselors. More details will be available on the ISCA website this fall.
 - If your elementary or intermediate school includes 6th graders – see the Middle School Counselor Updates below.
 - The International Bullying Prevention Association is collaborating with the Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy and the IDOE to bring its national conference on bullying prevention and research to Indianapolis on November 6-7, 2008. Early Bird Registration ends June 27, 2008. The conference registration fees have been greatly reduced to enable an affordable opportunity for all those attending. Registration and conference information are available at: http://www.doe.state.in.us/issas/new_horizons.html
- **Middle School Counselor Update**
 - There is wide confusion about whether the Algebra I Core 40 ECA taken this spring by current 7th or 8th graders will "count" as the new graduation examination. The answer is that the state does not know yet if it will count. Here is the answer given on the new Statewide Assessment Q & A related to this topic: *"It is too early to tell"*

exactly how performance on the current test will align with the final approved test and how it will fit into the waiver process.”

- Remember that 21st Century Scholars applications will extend to 6th graders next year. If you need more details about this, please let us know.
- Initial Graduation Plans begin next year for all 6th graders. Indiana middle school counselors and Learn More Indiana are helping us create a Graduation Plan document (similar to the current Career and Course Planner for 8th and 9th grades) that you can use (if you wish). We hope to have the funding to distribute to every accredited school in the state with sixth grade students. These changes result from the passage of House Bill 1246 this spring.
- The current Career and Course Planner will change its name to a “Graduation Plan” for students in 8th grade and higher. It will also contain the new elements required from this spring’s legislation.
- **High School Counselor Update**
 - Information on the three GQE waivers available to seniors who did not pass the GQE is available at http://www.doe.state.in.us/sservices/counseling/highschool/academic_guidance.html under the “ISTEP/GQE” section. Remember that for the “work-based” waiver, any “workforce readiness assessment” may be used (it is the discretion of the school) and students only need to TAKE the assessment (there is no “passing” score).
 - Information about 8th grade students taking the Algebra I Core 40 ECA is detailed above in the Middle School Counselor Update.
 - Final details about Indiana’s part in next year’s PSAT are still in the works. The state intends to fund PSAT for all juniors in Indiana accredited public and non-public schools next fall as it did in 2007.
 - Detailed instructions on submitting AP Exam Invoices is available at http://www.doe.state.in.us/opd/advpla/adv_pla.htm
 - Four, free AP workshops will be offered in early July this summer. The Indiana AP Bridge Project Summer Institutes are sponsored by Notre Dame and will be held in Indianapolis, Terre Haute, South Bend and West Lafayette. For more details, go to http://www.doe.state.in.us/opd/advpla/adv_pla.htm There is no fee for these professional development opportunities.

Resources

- Don’t forget to include the 45th annual **Munger Conference for Youth-Serving Professionals** in your summer plans, June 16-19 at Indiana University’s School of Education in Bloomington. Visit the Munger website to view the program and to register for the conference and graduate credit at <http://munger.indiana.edu/>.
- Be sure to put the **Elementary School Counselor Retreat** on your calendar for September 28-29th, 2008. The 2nd Annual ISCA Elementary Professional School Counselor Fall Retreat will be at the Fatima Retreat Center in Indianapolis and is open to experienced and new elementary school counselors.
- IUPUI is offering the **Introduction to Engineering Design (IED) course** for Project Lead the Way this summer. The opportunity is intended for high school students unable to enroll in the PLTW IED class at their high school due to scheduling conflicts. The cost is \$35.67 and

students enrolled in this course will not only satisfy PLTW requirements, but will receive transcribed IUPUI credit at the same time. For more information and application materials, please visit <http://www.engr.iupui.edu/~reid/pltw/>

- The **Indianapolis National College Fair** will be held **Thursday November 6th at the Indianapolis Convention Center**. This is the first time in over a decade that Indy will hosting a national fair. It is a day/night fair with the morning sessions running from 9am-1 pm and the evening session from 6pm-8pm. Approximately 150-200 colleges and universities are expected to be in attendance. All high schools are invited to attend.
- **Indiana University High School (IUHS)**, a virtual school administered by the IU School of Continuing Studies, will begin registering students for its fall 2008 AP courses from July 1st through August 15, 2008. IUHS offers online AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature and Composition, AP US History, and AP Chemistry courses. For more information, call 800.334.1011 or send an email message to scs@indiana.edu
- **Selah House**, in Anderson, Indiana, is a referral and treatment center that works with students with eating disorders by combining "biblical truths, science-based therapies, and a deep love for our residents and their families to facilitate genuine and lasting healing." Many of the professionals on staff overcome eating disorders in their own lives. For more information, call 888-641-0022.
- The Indiana Black Expo will hold a **Statewide Forum to Promote Cultural Competence in Education** on Friday, July 18th at the Indiana Convention Center – Keynote speakers include **Dr. Ruby Payne**, author of *A Framework for Understanding Poverty* and Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu, author of *Mis-Education of the Negro: Profile, Introduction and Study Questions*. For more information on conference and speakers: www.blackexpo.com
- Helping young adults with a disability prepare for the transition to adult life is the focus of the **Indiana Statewide Transition Conference** titled, "Paddle Your Own Canoe" August 6 – 7th at the Sheraton Hotel at Keystone at the Crossing in Indianapolis. Participants will enjoy quality speakers, productive dialogues, formal and informal networking, and exhibitors of tools and techniques to enhance transition outcomes and the lives of young adults with disabilities. Details are at http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/training/paddle_your_own_canoe.pdf

Sign up for SS InTouch at <http://listserv.doe.in.gov/mailman/listinfo/intouch>

Find archived editions of SS InTouch at www.doe.in.gov/schoolcounseling under "Resources"

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